ABSTRACT

ATM network comprising a physical network (1) with different stations. A stream of ATM cells is transferred from at least a source station (2) to a group of different destination stations (3–12), via a

5   same virtual transmission path, which is characterised by ATM cells having the same "virtual path identifier". The virtual path (VPI_1) comprises various virtual connections, each characterised by ATM cells having a same "virtual connection identifier", VCI. Furthermore, the group of destination stations is subdivided into various subgroups.

10   The destination stations, which detect the VPIs and the VCIs of the ATM cells appearing at those stations, extract only those ATM cells having a VPI equal to the VPI of the virtual path of the group and a VCI equal to the VCI of the subgroup.

(Fig. 1)